



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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MAY 26, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
INDEPENDENCE FELON SENTENCED
FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Independence, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Today's sentencing, Graves said, is a result of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

Michael J. Miller, 43, of Independence, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this afternoon to one year and six months in federal prison without parole.

On Feb. 17, 2005, **Miller** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Miller** admitted that he was in possession of an RG Industries .22-caliber revolver on Jan. 20, 2005. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Miller** has two criminal felony convictions for driving under the influence from 2000 and 1994.

Miller was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Jan. 24, 2005, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow